GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:302
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF
Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by the Government in regard to creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS);and

(b) the latest position in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): Pursuant to the Group of Ministers (GOM) report on "Reforming the National Security System" in February 2001,the Government initiated the process of consultation with political parties in March 2006. As this process is still underway, the Government would take a decision on the creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) after the consultation is completed.Raksha Mantri has addressed leaders of various national level political parties.Four parties have replied.Parties who have not replied to the letter have been reminded to expedite their views.